



Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs

# Department of Environmental Protection

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**July 14, 2025**

## **MassDEP's Official Answers to Questions 2026-2027 Technical Assistance Grant Opportunity**

On May 14, 2025 the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) issued a Technical Assistance Grant Opportunity (TAG Opportunity) for parties interested in enhancing their participation in assessment and cleanup activities at disposal sites in their communities (<https://www.mass.gov/service-details/technical-assistance-grants-waste-site-cleanup>). MassDEP awards Technical Assistance Grants (TAGs) to selected community and citizens' groups to allow those groups to obtain expert assistance, increase public participation and provide public education about disposal site assessment and cleanup activities. MassDEP accepted Questions regarding the TAG Opportunity through the Grant Procurement Calendar deadline of July 11, 2025. MassDEP's Official Answers to the Questions received by the deadline are provided below.

**1. Can a TAG be used by a municipality to establish a management system for vape disposals, considering their environmental and combustion hazards when improperly disposed of in the trash?**

**MassDEP Response:** No. The purpose of TAGs is to encourage effective public participation and education in the cleanup process at disposal sites. As such, an application for a TAG must identify a specific disposal site(s) and include activities aimed at enhancing public participation in the cleanup work at that disposal site. As noted on page 3 of the TAG Opportunity, and in accordance with 310 CMR 40.1452(5), to be eligible for a TAG a disposal site must be: (1) a tier classified disposal site; per 310 CMR 40.0500; (2) a disposal site on the USEPA National Priorities List (NPL); or (3) a disposal site that has been designated as "adequately regulated" pursuant to 310 CMR 40.0110. Information about TAG eligibility may be found on the TAG webpage: <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/technical-assistance-grants-waste-site-cleanup>

This information is available in alternate format. Please contact Melixza Esenyie at 617-626-1282.

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